## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE:					25X1X	
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1. The Brorgand a total were 1	inh Xuyen armed forcestized into three regime all strength of about 3 located in the Saigonalong the Baria-Long ocated in Dalat.	s, as of late Marcents, eight battal 3,500 armed troops Cholon area, thre Thanh road, and t	h and early April ions, and 26 comp . Twenty of these e companies were he remaining thre	lon.  1 1955, were panies, with se companies located in se companies		
8.	A battalion, composed three companies.					
<b>b.</b>	A company, composed of 130-150 men commanded by a captain, comprised three platoons.					
. c. 1	A platoon, composed on three squads.	f 30-40 men comman	ided by a lieuten	ant, comprised		
đ. /	A squad, composed of	12 men, was commar	ded by a sergean	t.,		
	rs Companies					
	inh Xuyen headquarters 10th and 11th Headqu imately 250 men.	s, located at the warters Companies,	Y Bridge in Cholo with a total str	on, was guarded ength of		

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1st Regiment

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- 4. The 1st Regiment, commanded by Col. Thai Hoang Minh<sup>1</sup>, with Lt. Col. Nguyen Van **Hieu** as deputy commander, was composed of five battalions, each organized into three companies. One company of each battalion was kept at full strength ((150 men) at headquarters, and the other companies were located at posts and in homes of the Saigon-Cholon area. Thus, the 1st Regiment had a standing strength of 750 men and a maximum strength of approximately 2,250 men.
  - a. The lat Battalion, commanded by Major Hoang Ngoc Can, was in conjunction with the 2nd Battalion, in charge of the region southwest of the Binh Xuyen headquarters.
  - b. The 2nd Battalion, commanded by Major Vo Thanh Nghi, was in conjunction with the 1st Battalion, in charge of the region southwest of Binh Xuyen headquarters.
  - c. The 3rd Battalion, commanded by Major Mon<sup>1</sup>, was in charge of the region southeast of Binh Xuyen headquarters.
  - d. The 4th Battalion was in charge of posts along the Baria-Long Thanh section of the Saigon-Cap Saint Jacques road.
  - e. The 5th Battalion, commanded by Major Thai Ngoc Xuan, haka Tu Den, was in charge of the region south of Binh Kuyen headquarters.

## 2nd Regiment

- 5. This regiment, popularly known as the Green Berets (Berets Verts) was commanded by Lt. Col. Le Van Paul, 1 General Le Van Vien's eldest son. Le Van Paul was also in charge of Binh Kuyen financial affairs and was empowered to make financial decisions in Vien's absence. The 2nd Regiment, composed of three battalions, had a total strength of approximately 1,300 men, approximately 900 of whom were located in the Saigon-Cholon area.
  - a. The 1st Battalion, commanded by Capt. Le Dinh Nghia, was located in posts in the Saigon-Cholon area.
  - b. The 2nd Battalion, commanded by Capt. Nguyen Tan Nhi, was also located in posts in the Saigon-Cholon area.
  - c. The 3rd Battalion was stationed in Dalat.

## 3rd Regiment

6. Prior to its deactivation in early April 1955, the 3rd Regiment was commanded by Lt. Col. Tran Thien. Although called a regiment, this unit was actually composed of two battalions at company strength. The mission of this unit's 300 regular troops, most of whom were recruited from among Catholic refugees, was to organize training and to protect Catholic refugees resettled at Dinh Donh, which was located on the outskirts of Cholon. This unit was deactivated at the insistence of Father Hosng Quynh, who became apprehensive for the safety and welfare of Catholic refugees subsequent to the skirmish between Binh Xuyen and Vietnamese National Army troops on the night of 29-30 March in Saigon-Cholon. Upon deactivation of this unit, its 300 troops were given the alternative of being transferred to other Binh Xuyen units or of being demobilized.

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7. The following reduced monthly pay scale in plasters had been in effect since January 1955 when the Binh Xuyen lost its lease on the Grand Monde gambling casino:

	Rank	Base Pay	Allowances	Total	Rice Ration
8.	Major	1,000	450	1,450	30 kilograms
ъ.	Captain	800	450	1,250	30 do
c.	First Lieutenant	600	450	1,050	30 do
đ.	Second Lieutenant	500	450	950	30 do
e.	Non-commissioned officer	300	450	750	30 do
f.	Enlisted man	600	0	600	None

- An organization chart of the Binh Xuyen forces as of early April 1955 is Attachment I. Attachment II is a layout map of the Binh Xuyen headquarters.
- 9. A map showing the disposition of the Binh Xuyen forces, Attachment III, has been forwarded to the Department of the Army on a six week loan and will be available in the CIA Library upon its return.

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The maps described above are available in the CTA Library.

Distribution of Attachments I and II:

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Distribution of Attachment III:

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